

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer readable media having stored therein a documentation creation system comprising:

a localization spreadsheet including:

a first column of cells having stored therein identifiers associated with alphanumeric strings to be included in a textual document;

a second column of cells associated with respective ones of said identifiers, each cell having stored therein an alphanumeric string in a first natural language;

a third column of cells associated with respective ones of said identifiers each cell having stored therein an alphanumeric string in a second natural language; and

an engine configured to create a string table from said localization spreadsheet including said identifiers and said alphanumeric strings of one of first and second natural languages.

2. The computer readable media of claim 1 wherein said engine is further configured to generate a plurality of said string tables wherein each string table includes said alphanumeric strings from the same column of cells from said localization spreadsheet.

3. The computer readable media of claim 1 wherein said string table is used by a computer program to create screens displayed to a user of said computer program.

4. The computer readable media of claim 1 wherein said localization spreadsheet includes logic for highlighting one of said identifier in response to a change made to a corresponding alphanumeric string of one of said first and second natural languages.

5. The computer readable media of claim 1 wherein said localization spreadsheet includes logic for highlighting ones of said alphanumeric strings of one of said first and second natural language in response to a change made to a corresponding one of said identifier.

6. The computer readable media of claim 1 wherein said localization spreadsheet includes logic for highlighting, in response to a change made to one of said alphanumeric strings in said first natural language, a corresponding one of said alphanumeric strings of a second natural language.

7. The computer readable media of claim 1 wherein the localization spreadsheet further comprises:

a fourth column of cells associated with respective ones of said identifiers each cell having stored therein an alphanumeric string in a third natural language.

8. The computer readable media of claim 1 wherein said alphanumeric strings represent one of a menu, prompt and information exchange.

9. A method of creating a string table comprising the steps of:

creating a localization spreadsheet including:

storing in a first column of cells identifiers associated with alphanumeric strings to be included in a textual document;

storing in a second column of cells an alphanumeric string in a first natural language where each of said alphanumeric string is associated with respective ones of said identifiers;

storing in a third column of cells an alphanumeric string in a second natural language where each of said alphanumeric string in said second natural language is associated with respective ones of said identifiers; and

creating the string table from said localization spreadsheet including said identifiers and said alphanumeric strings of one of first and second natural languages.

10. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of:

generating a plurality of said string tables wherein each string table includes said alphanumeric strings from the same column of cells from said localization spreadsheet.

11. The method of claim 9 further comprising the steps of:

reading said string table using a computer program;

creating screens using said alphanumeric strings contained within said string tables;

and

displaying said screens to a user of said computer program.

12. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of:

highlighting one of said identifier in response to a change made to a corresponding ones of said alphanumeric strings of one of said first and second natural languages.

14. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of:
highlighting, in response to a change made to one of said alphanumeric strings in said first natural language, a corresponding one of said alphanumeric strings of a second natural language.

15. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of:
storing in a fourth column of cells an alphanumeric string in a third natural language associated with respective ones of said identifiers.

16. The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of:
representing one of a menu, prompt and information exchange by said alphanumeric
string.

17. A computer readable media having stored therein:

means for associating an alphanumeric string with respective ones of said identifiers;

means for associating an alphanumeric string in a first natural language with
respective ones of said identifiers;

5 means for associating an alphanumeric string in a second natural language with
respective ones of said identifiers; and

means for creating a string table including said identifiers and said alphanumeric
strings of one of first and second natural languages.

18. The computer readable media of claim 17 further comprising:

means for using said string table within a main software routine to include a foreign
language in an interfacing software program.

19. The computer readable media of claim 17 further comprising:

means for reading said string table;

means for creating screens including said alphanumeric strings contained within said
string tables; and

5 means for displaying said screens to a user.

20. The computer readable media of claim 17 further comprising:

means for highlighting ones of said alphanumeric strings of one of said first and
second natural language, in response to a change made to a corresponding one of said
identifier.

21. The computer readable media of claim 17 further comprising:

means for highlighting, in response to a change made to one of said alphanumeric strings in said first natural language, a corresponding one of said alphanumeric strings of a second natural language.

22. The computer readable media of claim 17 further comprising:

means for storing in a fourth column of cells an alphanumeric string in a third natural language associated with respective ones of said identifiers.

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23. A method of creating a string table comprising the steps of:

creating a localization spreadsheet including:

storing in a first column of cells identifiers associated with alphanumeric strings to be included in a textual document;

storing in a second column of cells alphanumeric strings in a first natural language where each of said alphanumeric strings in said first natural language is associated with respective ones of said identifiers;

storing in a third column of cells alphanumeric strings in a second natural language where each of said alphanumeric strings in said second natural language is associated with respective ones of said identifiers;

creating a plurality of string tables from said localization spreadsheet including said identifiers and said alphanumeric strings from one of said first and second natural languages;

identifying a change in either said identifier column or in any of said language columns; and

highlighting, in response to said identifying step, entries in the other columns which are associated with identified changes in a particular column.